Clinical Nurse Specialist Role Immersion  
NUR 864 Sections 732 & 736  
6 Credits  
On-Line Course  
Spring 2011

Course Description: Synthesis, integration, and clinical application of the essential concepts and knowledge associated with the roles of the clinical nurse specialist (CNS).

Course Objectives: At the end of this course, students will:

1. Synthesize and apply nursing and related theories to form the foundation for nursing education and clinical nurse specialty practice.

2. Demonstrate process leadership skills by engaging in change and policy setting that influences the quality of health care within a system.

3. Synthesize theory and research findings to develop innovative, ethical, and effective nursing and educational interventions to promote cost-effective outcomes and efficient use of resources.

4. Utilize clinical expertise, scientific inquiry, and research interpretation to integrate evidence-based interventions to validate and advance nursing education and practices.

5. Apply theoretical and empirical knowledge in collaboration with members of the healthcare team to identify and implement nursing interventions, and evaluate nurse sensitive patient outcomes.

6. Engage in outcome evaluation methods to analyze system characteristics and organizational effectiveness to enhance performance.

7. Assume responsibility for professional growth, lifelong learning and health practice leadership.

8. Analyze critical issues that influence health care and the education of health care professionals.

9. Demonstrate MSN CNS entry level clinical expertise in the nursing diagnosis and treatment of illness, promotion of health, and reduction of health disparities within a defined specialty population.

Prerequisites: NUR 862 and (NUR 841 or concurrently) and NUR 801 and NUR 803 and NUR 805 and NUR 809 and NUR 815 and NUR 860

Co-requisites: None

Professional Standards & Guidelines: The curriculum is guided by the following documents:


Faculty:  
Jackeline I. Iseler MSN, RN, ACNS-BC  
Instructor: Theory course faculty  
616-482-7507 or Toll Free #: 1/800/605-6424  
Jackeline.iseler@hc.msu.edu

Kathleen Vollman, MSN, RN, CCNS, FCCM, FAAN  
Instructor: Clinical course coordinator  
517/355-6523 or Toll Free #: 1/800/605-6424  
W-114 Owen Graduate Hall  
kathleen.vollman@hc.msu.edu

Required Texts:


Additionally – textbooks utilized in previous courses may also be referenced in NUR 862. It is imperative that you have them on hand. These textbooks would be from the following College of Nursing courses: NUR 802, NUR 805, NR 806, NUR 807, NUR 809, & NUR 860

Required Resources, References, & Supplies:

ANGEL Help Line  
1.800.500.1554 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)  
517.355.2345 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)  
www.angel.msu.edu (ANGEL Help link in upper right corner)  
Always check with the ANGEL Help Line first!

Learning Methodologies:

This course is a combined theory (1 credit) and precepted clinical internship (5 credits or 220 hours) experience that will be conducted using the Angel on-line course infrastructure. Clinical and Course faculty will collaborate on assignments and course content that is applicable to the internship experience. Students are to complete all course and clinical expectations in order to successfully pass the course. Clinical arrangements have been secured in collaboration with each student prior to the opening day of the course.

The theory component of this on-line ANGEL course is built on a weekly framework of material including: a weekly lesson plan that includes the objectives, textbook readings, other required readings, key concepts, and enrichment activities. This course is not based on a self-paced learning model. Although assignments may be completed at any time during the week they are due, *most* materials need to be posted by 2355 (11:55 pm
Eastern Standard Daylight Savings Time [ESDST]) on the assigned due date unless otherwise instructed by the faculty. Instructions will be found in the weekly Lesson Plan, Course Calendar & in Course Announcements.

As adult learners, it is expected that students will do relevant reading and study for the identified weekly topics. As adult learners, it is also important that you read the rubrics in order to determine how your work will be evaluated.

Access to NUR 864 through ANGEL (you will see: Spring 2012 NUR 864 CNS Immersion)

You can access the class by going to http://angel.msu.edu

The course will not open until the 1st day of the full spring semester: January 9, 2012 @ 0800 (ESDST).

Technical problems with the use of ANGEL should be referred to the ANGEL Help Desk & not emailed to course faculty. The toll free ANGEL help line number is 1/800/500-1554 (North America and Hawaii), and the local campus area number is 1/517/355-2345.

If you have difficulty during a timed assignment, you need to contact the ANGEL Help Desk so a communication log is created. If you do not do this, faculty have no way to determine that you actually experienced problems and you may not be allowed to resubmit your work.

The course will close May 7, 2012 @ 1700 (5:00 pm, ESDST).

Evaluation Methods, Parameters & Activities:

Grades will be determined by adding all of the course activities together and arriving at a specific number. Each course activity has been assigned a percentage (%) which translates to weight of the activity compared to the totality of the course.

- Class activities (assignments) will be throughout the semester
  - A brief explanation of each is provided below
  - Additional and more specific information can be found in ANGEL & the course calendar
- Progress in the course will be discussed individually with each student as needed
  - Progress reports/evaluations and strategies for achievement will be completed for those students not earning 80% at mid-semester
- Active, relevant, professional and ethical participation (throughout the course and in the clinical setting, via e-mail, online, by telephone, or in person) is expected
- Communication that is deemed unprofessional, negative, unacceptable or detrimental to student learning may be deleted from the course by the faculty
  - Any communication that is deleted may not count toward earning course points
- Late assignments may not be accepted and may result in a lowering of a course grade.
  - Unless prior arrangements have been made with the faculty
- If a student has an emergency situation, the expectation is the lead or clinical faculty will be contacted prior to the assignment due date and time to make alternative arrangements
- If the student has any technology difficulties or difficulty accessing ANGEL, please contact the ANGEL HELP DESK & have them assist
  - ANGEL staff will not only help with the situation, a logged report is completed and submitted to faculty - in this way, faculties have received communication about student difficulty
    - Faculty will not solve technology, program or computer issues with/for you! Questions regarding course content are to be directed to faculty and not Angel.
  - Students are encouraged to send an email message to the appropriate faculty member regarding any technology difficulties – after speaking with ANGEL staff
Examinations
- There will be 2 exams scheduled for this course worth 30% of the total course grade. Exams may include multiple choice and short essay questions that reflect content presented in the course lessons and readings. Questions will reflect knowledge, application, and evidence-based information that require analysis/synthesis of previously learned material. The dates and times for the exams are listed below. Students are expected to arrange time to be available, locate a quiet secure setting, and have computer access to complete and submit the exam. Securing alternative times to take the exams is not an option. Students are expected to complete the exams independently and are held to the highest standards of academic honesty. Students will receive additional information within Angel.

Dates:
- February 15th between 1900 and 2100 hours EST (7:00 to 10:00 pm)
- April 18th between 1900 and 2100 hours EST (7:00 to 10:00 pm)

Precepted Clinical Practicum
- The clinical practicum is a precepted, supervised, faculty guided and graded experience totaling 220 clinical hours over the semester. Actual clinical assignments will be evaluated and contribute to the overall final course grade. The overall clinical experience will be evaluated on a pass/fail grading system related to essential individual characteristics and clinical comportment. If a student does not pass clinical, they will receive a 0.0 in NUR 864.

- Students will be expected to develop personal clinical objectives prior to beginning their rotation. Clinical objectives must be reviewed and approved with the clinical faculty prior to beginning clinical hours. All Clinical hours must be completed by April 20th unless prior arrangements have been secured with the clinical faculty and preceptor.

- A mid-semester and final semester preceptor assessment and faculty evaluation will be completed. Preceptor assessments must be completed and submitted by the due dates in order to complete the final evaluation process necessary to complete the course. It is the student's responsibility to remind the preceptor of the need to complete the process. The essential due dates are noted on the calendar.

- Clinical faculty will arrange date/time with individual student and preceptors during the scheduled midterm and final weeks of the course. Additional meetings may be scheduled as deemed necessary.

- Dress code for all students is white lab coat with MSU College of Nursing ID at all times.

- Additional clinical expectations and requirements will be individually emailed to the students and the preceptors.

• Synchronized Clinical Seminar
  - Two synchronized clinical seminars will be conducted during the semester. Each seminar will be at least an hour and a half. Attendance during these seminars is mandatory and will require students to arrange uninterrupted time to be available. Students will receive additional information within Angel.

  Dates:
  - February 7th
  - April 2nd
  - Specific times will be announced

• Scholarly Project (SP)
  - The scholarly project is a graduation requirement and requires students to successfully complete the project with a satisfactory grade in order to pass this course (and program). Specific
components of the SP will be due at several times during the semester to assure appropriate progression. An appropriately written final paper and abstract will be required as part of the final product. Please note the due dates on the calendar. Students will receive additional information within Angel.

- Additional Clinical Activities:
  - Additional clinical expectations and clinical activities will be provided to the students and posted within the angel course system. Detailed expectations, rubrics, performance criteria, and due dates will be clearly presented. Examples of clinical requirements include: a) Performance Appraisal; b) Evidence Based Policy & Procedure; c) a completed CNS electronic Portfolio; & d)

Grading

A grade of 3.0 (and clinical passing grade) must be achieved in order to pass NUR 864 and progress through the nursing program. The MSU 4.0 grading system will be utilized to report final course grades. Points will be rounded to whole numbers using the 0.5 rule. Points at ≥ 0.5 will be rounded up while those < 0.5 will be rounded down to the nearest whole number.

There is no opportunity for “extra credit” in this course.

The following point scale will be used for final grade determination:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOW</th>
<th>HIGH</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>376</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>94 – 100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>348</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>87 – 93</td>
<td>3.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>320</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>80 – 86</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>75 – 79</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>280</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>70 – 74</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>260</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>65 – 69</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>240</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>60 – 64</td>
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<td>239</td>
<td>Below 60</td>
<td>0.0</td>
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Grade Determination Will Be As Follows:

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<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>OVERALL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performance Appraisal</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activity Log &amp; Reflective Journal</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence-based Policy &amp; Procedure</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>CNS Electronic Portfolio</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Precepted Clinical Practicum</td>
<td>P/F</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Synchronized Clinical Seminar</td>
<td>P/F</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarly Project</td>
<td>P/F</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pass</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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Writing Requirements:
It is expected that students will engage in academic, scholarly dialogue at all times. *The minimum expectation for writing is at a graduate level consistent with the CON graduate handbook.* APA format is essential for citations of work and a reference list is required. Accurate APA formatting must be utilized in the course. Formatting is evaluated based on the 6th edition, 2nd printing (2010) of the APA Manual – which is a required textbook for the course.

Web sources such as Wikipedia, Epodunk, WebMD, and wikis are not considered scholarly or evidence-based and will not be accepted as sources within the course. Sources older than five years (unless considered by the discipline, a classic) will not be accepted. Community nursing and medical-surgical textbooks are not appropriate resources to cite for this graduate, advanced course.

**Library Information:**
- Library Services: http://www.lib.msu.edu/services
- MSU Library: http://www.lib.msu.edu
- Proxy Server: to access MSU library resources from an off-campus site, you must set up a proxy server. Directions to set up a proxy server are at: http://msu.edu/viewpathfinder.asp?id=2507

**When to Look for Course Materials:**

Tuesday is considered the “beginning” day of each week of the course (please refer to the Course Calendar). During each subsequent week of the course, you will be able to review the material for all past weeks.

**Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to log into and actively participate in any discussions on the unit message boards as required. Scholarly interchange is vital to everyone's understanding of the material.

**University & College Policies:**

The College of Nursing expects that students will demonstrate professional behavior in all situations. Specific expectations for clinical and other professional venues can be found in the appropriate handbook. You are responsible for reviewing and acting in accordance with the policies and procedures found in the following sources, including the following topics: Professionalism, Academic Integrity, Accommodations for Students with Disabilities, Disruptive Behavior, Attendance, Compliance, and Progression.

- CON Student handbook  [http://nursing.msu.edu/handbooks.asp](http://nursing.msu.edu/handbooks.asp)
- Information for Current Students—including Rights, Responsibilities and Regulations for Students [http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html](http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html)
- Academic Programs [http://www.reg.msu.edu/UCC/AcademicPrograms.asp](http://www.reg.msu.edu/UCC/AcademicPrograms.asp)

**Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is required from all students. Academic dishonesty is a serious infraction and may result in severe consequences. Any student involved in academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Support Services and the Office of Academic Affairs in the College of Nursing. A grade of 0.0 may be issued for the course.

Course materials must remain the property of the College of Nursing and must not be copied from the internet. According to university policy, consequences for academic dishonesty may include failure of the course, expulsion from the major, or expulsion from the university.

All information obtained within this course remains the intellectual property of faculty and peers. You may copy for personal, study only purposes. Course materials including information shared within the discussion
boards are for class purposes only and are not to be shared without first asking written permission of the author.

Any submission that is deemed unprofessional, negative or inflammatory may be deleted by faculty.

**NUR 864: Course Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK, DATE &amp; Course Obj.</th>
<th>CONTENT</th>
<th>TEXTBOOK READINGS</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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</table>
| **Week 1** Nov 10th (6, 7) | **Introduction** to the course  
**Interviewing**  
**Productivity model**  
- Structure, process outcomes  
- Performance appraisal | **Duffy** - chapter 1, pages 3-12; chapter 2, pages 13-22; chapter 24, pages 299-310  
**Fulton** – chapter 24, pages 299-310 | Read syllabus  
Clinical Objectives & proposed clinical schedule due January 12th |
| **Week 2** Dec 17th (7) | **Interviewing Exercise:**  
- Students will be paired in groups of 2  
- Group members will determine which individual will write the interview questions & who will write the organization candidate questions  
- Each person will serve in the role of interviewee & interviewer | **Duffy** - chapter 1, pages 3-12; chapter 2, pages 13-22; chapter 24, pages 299-310  
**Fulton** – chapter 24, pages 299-310 | May begin clinical hours starting January 17th (unless previous arrangements have been made with your clinical faculty)  
Scholarly Project Revisions (through methodology) due January 23rd |
| **Week 3** Nov 24th (2, 5) | **Group Work**  
- Process & performance  
Process analysis | **Hamric** – chapter 24, pages 681-724  
**Duffy** – chapter 5, pages 43-51  
**Fulton** – chapter 17, pages 223-236 | Activity Log & Reflective Journal #1 due February 6th: incorporate the Interviewing Exercise |
| **Week 4** Nov 31st (3, 5 & 6) | **Sepsis and Septic Shock:**  
- Early recognition & management saves lives  
**Nurse Sensitive Outcome Indicator: Failure to rescue**  
- Structured rounding  
- Rapid response systems | **Fulton** – chapter 42, pages 437-440 |  
1st Synchronized Clinical Seminar with faculty February 7th (time to be announced) |
| **Week 5** Dec 7th (9) | **Pain**  
- Acute & chronic  
- Management – nonpharmacologic & pharmacologic  
**Depression**  
- Acute & chronic | **Fulton** – chapter 35, pages 399 - 402 |  
1st Synchronized Clinical Seminar with faculty February 7th (time to be announced) |
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<tr>
<th>WEEK, DATE &amp; Course Obj.</th>
<th>CONTENT</th>
<th>TEXTBOOK READINGS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 14th</td>
<td>Complementary &amp; alternative therapies</td>
<td>Readings from outside the textbooks</td>
<td>Exam #1 – on February 15th between 1900 – 2100 hours (EST)</td>
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<td>(3, 5 &amp; 9)</td>
<td>o Music</td>
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<td></td>
<td>o Massage</td>
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<td></td>
<td>o Therapeutic touch</td>
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<td>o Aromatherapy</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Impact of Health Care Reform on health care systems &amp; the role of the APRN:</td>
<td>Readings from outside the textbooks</td>
<td>Mid-semester preceptor evaluation due to clinical faculty by February 27th</td>
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<td>Feb 21st</td>
<td>o Value based purchasing</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2, 3, 6)</td>
<td>o Accountable care organizations</td>
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<td>o CNS impact models</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Models of practice across the continuum: Part I</td>
<td>Fulton – chapter 26, pages 329-330</td>
<td>Progress update on CNS Portfolio due February 29th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 28th</td>
<td>o Case management</td>
<td>Duffy – chapter 10, pages 79-88; chapter 16, pages 135-144; chapter 20, pages 163-172</td>
<td>Performance Appraisal due March 3rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2, 5, 6 &amp; 8)</td>
<td>o Finance</td>
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<td>Midterm</td>
<td>o Budgeting</td>
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<td>o DRG’s</td>
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<td>o Risk management</td>
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<td>o Discharge planning</td>
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<td>o Infection preventionist</td>
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<td>o Home health</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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<td>March 5th</td>
<td>No clinical hours!</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Models of practice across the continuum: Part II</td>
<td>Readings from outside the textbooks</td>
<td>Evidence-based policy &amp; procedure due March 19th: as part of SP or separate</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 13th</td>
<td>Diabetes</td>
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<td>(2, 5, 6 &amp; 8)</td>
<td>o Acute</td>
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<td>o DKA</td>
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<td>Hormonal imbalance (acute)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>o Adrenal insufficiency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Hormonal imbalance (acute)</td>
<td>Readings from outside the textbooks</td>
<td>Activity Log &amp; Reflective Journal #3 due March 26th: with shadowing</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20th</td>
<td>o Acute</td>
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<tr>
<td>(4 &amp; 9)</td>
<td>o DKA</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Adrenal insufficiency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Ethical foundations</td>
<td>Hamric – chapter 11, pages 315-342</td>
<td>2nd Synchronized Clinical Seminar April 2nd – time to be announced</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 27th</td>
<td>o Moral distress</td>
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<td>Electronic</td>
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<td>o Social justice</td>
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<td>WEEK, DATE &amp; Course Obj.</td>
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<td>TEXTBOOK READINGS</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
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| April 3rd (I, 5, 9)     | • End of life  
• Palliative care | • *Fulton* - chapter 33, 391-392 | Portfolio due April 2nd |
| Week 14                 |         |                  |          |
| April 10th (I, 5, 9)    | • Crisis intervention for the patient  
• Families across the continuum  
  o Dynamics  
  o Place in health & wellness | • *Fulton* – chapter 16, pages 213-222; chapter 15 – pages 199-212 | • Scholarly Project 1st complete draft due April 11th |
| Week 15                 |         |                  |          |
| April 17th (1 – 9)      | • Finalization of clinical internship & Scholarly Project | **Readings from outside the textbooks** | • Abstract for journal or conference due April 16th  
• Exam #2 April 18th - between 1900 and 2100 hours EST  
• Clinical hours must be completed by April 20th  
• Activity Log & Reflective Journal #4 due April 23rd: include challenges & barriers in making the SP happen |
| Week 16                 |         |                  |          |
| April 24th              | • Wrap up |                  | • Preceptor Evaluation due to clinical faculty April 24th  
• Scholarly Project final due April 26th  
• Final evaluation to be scheduled with clinical faculty |
| Classes End April 27th  |         |                  |          |

**Friday May 4th Graduation for MSN students**  
Private MSN CNS Celebration Luncheon (details to be announced)

The faculty reserves the right to revise the course calendar as deemed appropriate and necessary. Students will receive advanced notice of any changes via email. A revised and dated calendar will be posted in Angel.